

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1-6. (Cancelled).

7. (Previously Presented) A drug delivery system comprising:
a composition manufactured from silica fibers, wherein the fibers are fused together
such that the composition comprises a plurality of voids of a predetermined mean void size;
and
one or more drugs.

8. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the drug
is an antibiotic.

9. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the
density of the composition is between about 6 pounds per cubic foot and about 7 pounds per
cubic foot.

10. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the
density of the composition is between about 4 pounds per cubic foot and about 6 pounds per
cubic foot.

11. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the
density of the composition is between about 4 pounds per cubic foot and about 5 pounds per
cubic foot.

12. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the density of the composition is between about 3 pounds per cubic foot and about 5 pounds per cubic foot.

13. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the density of the composition is up to about 12 pounds per cubic foot.

14. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the density of the composition is up to about 16 pounds per cubic foot.

15. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the density of the composition is up to about 39 pounds per cubic foot.

16. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the composition comprises spherical particles having a mean diameter of about 300 microns to about 500 microns.

17. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the drug is a hormone.

18. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the drug is penicillin.

19. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the drug is methylprednisolone acetate.

20. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the drug is norethisterone.

21. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, further comprising cells.

22. (Previously Presented) The drug delivery system of claim 7, further comprising one or more biodegradable polymers.

23. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the composition manufactured from silica fibers comprises a composition manufactured from alumina fibers, silica fibers, and boron nitride.

24. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 23, further comprising silicon carbide.

25. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 24, further comprising carbon fibers.

26. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 24, wherein the density of the composition ranges from about 3 pounds per cubic foot to about 12 pounds per cubic foot.

27. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 7, wherein the composition manufactured from silica fibers comprises a composition manufactured from silica fibers, carbon fibers, and a fusion compound.

28. (New) The drug delivery system of claim 7, further comprising a nutrient for cells.